

Workshop on Evils of Dowry

2317 SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHAN DARI Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether any workshop on evils of dowry was organised by the Department of Women and Child Development,

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the objectives

(c) the details of suggestions made in the workshop, and

(d) the steps taken to implement those suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) (a) to (d) A Workshop was organised under the aegis of the Department of Women & Child Development by the National Institute of Public Cooperation & Child Development in collaboration with the Indian Law Institute on 12-13 January, 1991, to review the four acts with which the Department is concerned. The recommendations of the workshop with reference to the Dowry Prohibition Act, inter-alia related to a change in the definition of Dowry, restrictions on marriage expenses and number of guests, equal inheritance rights for women, compulsory registration of marriage delinking of the economic aspect from marriages, mandatory provision to maintain a list of presents, prescription of a time limit for preparation of a large-sheet and post-mortem reports, disallowing the accused in a dowry death case from remarrying till the case is finally decided, association of women police officers

with investigation, close association of Dowry Prohibition Officers with voluntary organisations and setting up of family courts to settle dowry cases. The recommendations are under the consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

2318 SHRI BALRAJ PASSI
SHRIPRABHU DAYALKATHERIA
SHRI RAMKRISHNA
KUSMARIA

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide free rail passes to the handicapped persons,

(b) if so, the details thereof and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL LIKARJUN) (a) No. Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) Orthopaedically handicapped, Mentally Retarded, totally Deaf & Dumb and Blind persons are already eligible for specified concessions. Further liberalisation is not feasible in view of wide implications.

[English]

**Restoration of Saradia-Junagadh
Railway Line**

2319 SHRI HARIBHAI PATEL Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Saradia-Junagadh railway line on Western Railway has been discontinued, and